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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 00448 160205Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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USIA FOR ILA AND IOP/FW

FROM AMBASSADOR JOVA TO VICE-PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLER

1. ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1974 I TRANSMITTED A LETTER FROM JULIO SCHERER, DIRECTOR OF EXCELSIOR, REQUESTING AN INTERVIEW WITY YOU, AND ENDORSED HIS REQUEST. ON OCTOBER 10 YOU KINDLY REPLIED THAT IF YOU WERE CONFIRMED YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO GRANT THE INTERVIEW. SCHERER HAS PREPARED A LETTER,WHICH I AM FORWARDING TO YOU, RESTATING HIS INTEREST IN THE INTERVIEW. THE TEXT FOLLOWS: QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH MY REQUEST OF SEPTEMBER 3, 1974 FOR A PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH YOU, IN MY CAPACITY OF GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE DAILY "EXCELSIOR" OF MEXICO CITY AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE LATIN AMERICAN NEWS AGENCY "LATIN", OUR MUTUAL FRIEND AMBASSADOR JOVA SUGGESTED THAT THE CONFIRMATION PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS PREVENTED YOU FROM GRANTING IT AT THE TIME. NOW THAT YOU HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED BY CONGRESS AS VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, I AM RENEWING THIS REQUEST THROUGH THE COURTEOUS CHANNEL OF AMBASSADOR JOVA. I AM SURE THAT YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THIS IMPATIENCE STEMS
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PAGE 02 MEXICO 00448 160205Z

FROM THE JOURNALIST'S PERSONALITY, AND IS ALL THE GREATER

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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IN VIEW OF DR. KISSINGER'S FORTHCOMING TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA. UNQUOTE.

2. I HOPE THAT YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO SEE MR. SCHERER IN THE NEAR FUTURE. MEANWHILE, DR. PEDRO LOPEZ DIAZ, EDITORIAL WRITER OF EL HERALDO DE MEXICO, HASN NOTIFIED USIS THAT HE WILL BE IN WASHINGTON ON JANUARY 20 AND THAT HE TOO WOULD APPRECIATE AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU.

3. EXCELSIOR OFTEN TAKES AN ANTI-AMERICAN LINE BUT IT IS THE MOST INFLUENTIAL NEWSPAPER IN MEXICO AND ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE (POSSIBLY UNMERITED) PRESTIGE IN THE HEMISPHERE. EL HERALDO IS DISTINCTLY MORE CONSERVATIVE THAN EXCELSIOR. BOTH HAVE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME CIRCULATION.

4. I FEEL IT WOULD SERVE OUR PURPOSE IF YOU WERE ABLE TO GRANT BOTH INTERVIEWS. USIS IS SENDING A SEPARATE TELEGRAM (SEE REFERENCE) TO ITS HEADQUARTERS WITH FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING DR. LOPEZ DIAZ' REQUEST FOR AN INTERVIEW. REGARDS.
JOVA

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